

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /117 W

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R 271447Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3174

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 2847

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, GL, DA

SUBJECT: OIL AND GAS PROSPECTING, GREENLAND

REF: 75 COPENHAGEN 1023 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: THE FIRST DRILLING FOR OIL AND GAS OFF THE GREENLAND WEST COAST WAS COMPLETED IN MID-AUGUST 1976. ALTHOUGH THE DRILLING PRODUCED TRACES OF HYDROCARBONS FINAL TESTS WERE NEGATIVE. THE RESULT OF THIS FIRST DRILLING IS DESCRIBED AS A DRY WELL. END SUMMARY

1. THE TGA/GREPCO GROUP, ONE OF SIX GROUPS OF SIX GROUPS OF COMPANIES HOLDING CONCESSIONS FOR OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OFF THE GREENLAND WEST COAST, COMPLETED ITS FIRST DRILLING IN MID-AUGUST. THE DRILLING WAS PERFORMED BY A DYNAMICALLY POSITIONED DRILLING VESSEL, THE "PELICAN", OPERATED BY TOTAL S.A., FRANCE. IT TOOK PLACE ON A POSITION OF 66 DEGREES 09'00.92' NORTH, 56 DEGREES 11'24.28' WEST, IN A WATERDEPTH OF 179 METERS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE GREENLAND MINISTER AND THE CONCESSION HOLDERS, THE DRILLING PRODUCED A DRY WELL. TRACES OF HYDROCARBONS WERE REPORTED DURING DRILLING, LEADING TO STRONG RUMORS AND NEWS HEAD-
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LINES DESCRIBING "FINDINGS OF HUGE QUANTITIES OF

NATURAL GAS". THE RUMORS WERE, HOWEVER, FLATLY DENIED BY THE GREENLAND MINISTRY AND CONCESSION HOLDERS, AND IN A FINAL STATEMENT, THE GREENLAND MINISTER DESCRIBED THE WELL AS DRY. THERE ARE NO PLANS TO REOPEN IT. THE WELL HAS A DEPTH OF 3500-4000 METERS. THE NEXT DRILLINGS WILL BE CARRIED OUT DURING THE SUMMER OF 1977.
LUKENS

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Message Attributes

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